221194US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

10-22-02

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

PHILIPPE FRANCOIS

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN.

: ATTN: APPLICATION BRANCH

(Based on PCT/FR00/02656)

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: DELIVERY VALVE DEVICE FOR

REFRIGERANT COMPRESSOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-11 without prejudice.

Please add new Claims 12-22 as follows:

12. (New) A delivery valve device for a refrigerant compressor comprising:

a valve plate pierced with at least one fluid delivery passage;

at least one delivery valve closing said at least one fluid delivery passage on a downstream side in a direction of delivery of the fluid, and secured, at one of its ends, to the valve plate by first fixing means; and

at least one delivery valve stop;